Unemployment due to Liberalization and Multi National Companies

†526. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every year 40 to 50 lakh persons are being rendered jobless due to the consistent liberalization and entry of MNCs;

(b) whether it is also a fact that ten lakh and twenty thousands small scale companies are on the verge of closure due to the manufacturing of items by MNCs which were being manufactured by small scale industries;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the workers are also being retrenched by the big companies; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government for the rehabilitation and redeployment of these workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Due to globalization and economic liberalization some employment opportunities in the older type of enterprises might have been reduced due to declining efficiency, but at the same time new employment opportunities are created in a number of new areas such as Information Technology, Tourism, Financial Services, etc. On the whole, employment has gone up from 374.5 million in 1993-94 to 397 million in 1999-2000.

(b) to (d) As per the available information, number of small scale industrial units have gone up from 33.12 lakh in 2000-01 to 34.42 lakh in 2001-02. Similarly number of workers engaged in the small scale industries has also gone up from 185.64 lakh in 2000-01 to 192.23 lakh in 2001-02.

As per the provisional information, number of workers affected by retrenchment during 2002 and 2003 (January to May) were 3843 and 892 respectively.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.